AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 15, please replace the section after BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS with the following amended section:

Fig. 1 graphically illustrates functions k' [N/(N+S)] and g' [N/(N+S)] used in echo and noise reduction.

Fig. 2 ~~is~~ illustrates a functional overview of echo and/or noise correction consistent with the present invention.

~~Fig. 3 illustrates a functional overview of echo and noise correction consistent with the present invention.~~

On page 15, please replace the second full paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 2 shows an actual embodiment consistent with the invention. A ~~measuring and/or estimating section~~noise detector 2 continuously measures and/or estimates the power value of a noise level N in an input signal 1 of a currently used telecommunications channel[[1]]. Similarly, the echo detector 3 measures the echo signal in the input signal 1. The ~~echo canceller 5~~echo and/or noise reduction function R outputs a reduction signal 8 based on the detected noise and echo signals in the input signal 1. The function R may be, for example, the generalized reduction function $R(S,N,ES,\tau_E,ERL,thrs)$. As described above, the general reduction function R is a function of the noise reduction function, g(S/N), and the noise-dependent echo reduction function $d(N,ES,\tau_E,ERL,thrs)$. The reduction function R sets continuously and automatically a degree of reduction of the echo and/or noise signals measured ~~on~~ by noise detector 2 and echo

detector 3. The reduction signal 8 output from the echo and/or noise reduction function R is sent to an echo and/or noise canceller 5, which subtracts the reduction signal 8 from the input signal 1 and produces an output signal 7 that has the desired reduction of echo and/or noise. ~~as represented by function d. The reduction of the echo signals is in dependence on the noise level N of the telecommunications channel 1. The dependence is based on a predefined function h(N) in function section 4. Fig. 3 shows an embodiment of the invention where the~~As described above, the noise reduction and the echo reduction ~~are controlled separately by function d in function section 5 and function g in function section 6, respectively~~may be applied independently and additionally to the input signal 1, e.g., the reduction function R may just include the function $d(N,ES,\tau_E,ERL,thrs)$ for producing a noise-dependent echo reduction signal.

~~Fig. 1 illustrates an example for the~~To ensure that only interfering noise is removed from the input signal 1 instead of a mixture of noise and traces of speech, a speech pause detector 6 may be added.

The noise-dependent echo reduction function $d(N,ES,\tau_E,ERL,thrs)$ may be, for example, a function k' [N/(N+S)] as illustrated in Fig. 1, and the noise reduction function g(S/N) may be, for example, a ~~an example for the~~ function g'[N/(N+S)]. ~~Examples of noise and echo dampening using these~~These non-limiting examples of noise and echo reduction functions are ~~given below~~further descried below.